

No 'Nuisance' Tax Action Yet

Hague Service Was Impressive

Members of the motion picture and theatre industry from Toronto and other points, despite the inclement weather, were present in considerable number at the funeral services to Clair Hague, Universal Films' Canadian representative and president

(Continued on Page 10)

Offer Television By Subscription

The recent statement of J. J. Nance, vice-president of Zenith Radio Corporation, Chicago, that he believed the best way to create a "box-office" for television was to introduce a "subscription system" whereby those sets equipped with a "scrambling device" would

(Continued on Page 2)

Committee of Exhibitors Meets With Treasurer

A delegation of Ontario exhibitors last week made known the objections of the trade to the rumored provincial amusement tax during a meeting with the Honorable Leslie M. Frost, provincial treasurer. The Motion Picture Censorship and Theatre Inspection branch of his department is headed by O. J. Silverthorne.

Which Way is the Casting Dep't?

Al Williamson, who writes the People Tell Me column in the Vancouver News-Herald, recently reported this to his readers:

LOOK-ALIKES: Any time Hollywood makes a picture on the life of Wallace Beery, the producers should grab Gordon Lightstone, Canadian manager for Paramount. He has been here for the past week from Toronto. He is the Wally Beery of 15 years ago.

We don't believe the follow-up report that Mr. Beery, having been shown the item and a picture of Gordon, is after Williamson with a horsewhip.

Those who conferred with Mr. Frost learned little to indicate that it is the government's intention to call for an impost on admission fees to theatres—an unpopular measure generally referred to as a "nuisance tax" which was cancelled in 1937 by the former head of the Ontario

(Continued on Page 2)

Kelly Heads Club

Arthur W. Kelly, Eagle-Lion head in the USA, is now president of the British Club of New York, which he helped found in 1927. Britishers and Americans are members.

Court Ends B&L, Mason Deal

A decision has been filed in the case of N. W. Mason vs the Rose-land Theatre Company in the Supreme Court of Nova Scotia. The finding of Mr. Justice Doull, who presided at the hearing in Pictou last October, has been rendered in favor of the Company. As

(Continued on Page 2)

Frank Davis to WB, Montreal

Frank Davis has been transferred from the Ontario branch of Warner Brothers to join Grat-tan Kiely in the Montreal office. He came to the Toronto branch under Joe Plottel after receiving an honorable discharge from the RCAF for medical reasons.

(Continued on Page 10)

Fox Will Celebrate 30th Birthday

An international celebration in April will mark the 30th anniversary of Twentieth Century-Fox, Sydney Samson, Canadian general manager, announces.

In 1915 William Fox Corporation went into production at Fort Lee, New Jersey, then a motion picture centre, and later a second studio was opened in New York City. The movement to California was growing and Fox became part of it.

First picture made by the company was the 1915 effort, "Life's Shop Window," starring Stuart Holmes. Fox Newsreel came into existence in 1919.

In 1935 Fox merged with 20th Century Productions, bringing Joseph M. Schenck and Darryl Zanuck in to take charge of the

(Continued on Page 10)

Labor Rift Closes FP Wpg. Houses

A jurisdictional dispute between rival projectionists' unions caused the closing of Famous Players theatres in Winnipeg on February 14. No further information was available to us at the time of going to press.

Lease of Life

Ben Ulster's Ace, opposite the City Hall and due to close because Simpson's acquired the property, got a reprieve until May 26.

To Ask Amendment Of 12.05s By-Law

Operators of theatres in Toronto will ask for an amendment of the proposed by-law that may cause the cancellation of all midnight shows but those on the eve of Christmas and New Year. Joseph Sedgwick, K.C., will appear before the

Ernie Warren at Elgin, Ottawa

Popular Ernie Warren, recently honorably discharged from the RCAF, in which he served several years as a Flying Officer, has returned to 20th Century Theatre and has been assigned to manage the Elgin, Ottawa.

He has replaced Steve McManus, who resigned to enter the hotel business.

Warren left the Midtown, Toronto, to enlist.

Board of Police Commissioners, the body responsible for the anti-midnight show action, at its next meeting.

The Board of Police Commissioners, upon representations made by Chief Dennis Draper, cancelled midnight shows in Toronto without even giving theatre men a chance to appear and share the discussion. Opinions of 12 police inspectors, several department heads and those of the chief were solicited and apparently accepted but no theatre oper-

(Continued on Page 2)

Abbott & Costello

Cook, Lon Chaney and Phil Spitalny and the All-Girl Orchestra. IT'S EMPIRE-UNIVERSAL and a riot on screen and at the BO.

In "HERE COME THE CO-EDS" is a riot of fun about two sweater boys just working their way through girls' school — with Peggy Ryan, Martha O'Driscoll, Donald

Ask Amendment Of 12.05s Ban

(Continued from Page 1)

ator was made aware that his interests were being judged — an amazing situation.

The proposed by-law came before City Council for approval and won negative votes from two of the city's four controllers and three of its aldermen. Mayor Robert Saunders was vehemently opposed to midnight shows, denouncing them as a hazard to juvenile delinquency before a Massey Hall meeting of the clergymen's committee of the Health League. Theatre men, knowing that the law forbids admission of juveniles to theatres, are puzzled at the vigor with which Mayor Saunders has pursued the matter and feel irked that he should have seen fit to associate midnight shows with the battle against VD—which is what newspaper reports of the meeting indicate. This, it is felt, was a thoughtless action.

Under Paragraph 1 of the proposed by-law theatres will be forced to close each day of the week except Saturday at 11.45 p.m. and shall remain closed until at least 8 a.m. No suggestion has been made that this should apply to any other amusements and poolrooms, sporting events and dancehalls are not affected. Why theatres, which require less policing than any other form of professional amusement, should attract such emphatic interest is not explained.

The fact is that theatre men believe that they have received shabby treatment from the first. It is quite possible that the Board of Police Commissioners and Mayor Saunders, a member of it, will realize that their hastiness was unfair and allow an amendment to the present proposal.

The Toronto Evening Telegram sought opinion on the possible ban and learned from one exhibitor that "We feel the midnight shows to be a necessity. Each Sunday we have the same midnight trade and know that a good many of our patrons are war workers and musicians, whose work with bands leaves them no other time, and the like. We never see them during the week."

"I see no harm in running a midnight show," another told the reporter. "There are people who can't go any other time, and the fact that about 25 theatres in Toronto are well-patronized at midnight shows seems to prove there is a definite need for them. It is not right to suspect that everyone found on the streets is a criminal. That is the inference I draw from the magistrate's

Court Ends B&L, Mason Deal

(Continued from Page 1)

a result of the finding the control of the New Glasgow Theatres passes to the company of which Mayor Sobey of Stellarton is the controlling head. The principles associated with Mayor Sobey are Bertram Godden, Dr. C. Miller, Thomas Foster, H. B. McCulloch, M.P., and other smaller shareholders.

Mason, who was the largest individual shareholder, had agreed to sell his control to B&L Theatres, Saint John, N.B. The company opposed and upon this the lawsuit was established. The result may be that four theatres, Roseland and Academy in New Glasgow, and the Stellarton and Westville houses may be put under a common management. As yet, however, no decision in that respect has been arrived at.

Mason, who for so long managed the New Glasgow houses will no doubt retire from the theatre business. He is over eighty years of age. Apart from his entertaining, he found time to serve as Mayor of the town for several years.

Heyman Heads IA in Kingston, Ontario

The 1945 officers of Local Union 528, IATSE, Kingston, Ontario, are Lawrence Heyman, president; George Clapp, vice-president; Arthur Sweet, secretary-treasurer; Rodrick Davey, business agent; and William Richardson, sergeant-at-arms.

statement. The reason he offers for this action seems very flimsy. Labor would be affected by the banning of midnight shows. Twenty-five theatres operating put a lot of money in unionized workers' pockets."

(The "magistrate's statement" referred to above is that of Magistrate Browne, who said that six days of shows were enough and that young people shouldn't be out late.)

Those members of the City Council who voted against the ban were mainly associated with the labor movement. The Workers Educational Association has sponsored midnight shows for war workers in the past.

Offer Television By Subscription

(Continued from Page 1)

receive the television program, was fully endorsed by Arthur Levey, president of Scophony Corporation of America in which a 50 per cent stock interest is held by Paramount Pictures Inc. and 20th Century Fox via corporate entities.

Levey last fall revealed that Scophony was surveying the possibility of creating a "box-office" for television and considers this method as providing an additional source of revenue for major film distributors. Levey stated that subscription radio, utilizing the exclusive Scophony "scrambling" device registered at the U.S. Patent Office, is the invention of Dr. A. H. Rosenthal, eminent physicist, and director of research for Scophony and would enable the television broadcaster to accurately gauge the size of his audience.

"Scophony believes subscription radio probably will prove a substantial factor in solving television's economic problem," said Levey, "and we are contemplating supplying subscribers with the latest improved model of the Scophony home television receiver successfully demonstrated in London in 1939 and which actually shows a picture 24" x 20" in size comparable to 16 mm home motion pictures, upon payment of a small installation charge, plus a weekly inclusive fee of \$2.25, which would enable subscribers to amortize the cost of the set in about two years.

"The Scophony subscription television plan envisages an audience of at least 1,000,000 within a few years after post-war and at fifty cents a week, a subscriber fee of \$500,000 or an annual revenue of \$26,000,000 for the program service alone."

Referring to the motion picture industry, Mr. Levey said—"Barney Balaban and Paul Raibourn of Paramount, instinctively realizing that television will be the mass entertainment of the future and therefore have a profound effect upon all show business, purchased a substantial interest in Scophony Corporation of America and its patented Supersonic and Skiatron Television Systems as an insurance policy for the stockholders of Paramount Pictures.

No Tax Action Taken Yet

(Continued from Page 1)

government, Mitchell F. Hepburn, now leader of the Opposition. However, they didn't get a declaration of intention or non-intention either.

Since the meeting the Toronto & District Labor Council, which several weeks ago presented Mr. Frost with a resolution of protest in behalf of the 90,000 workers it represents, has continued to organize against the possibility of the tax. Last week the Council reiterated its stand, suggesting that any tax be not applied to admissions of less than 50 cents. This limit was given in a resolution to its parent body, the Ontario Federation of Labor, asking that the latter body forward its views to the authorities.

The reasons for the exhibitors' objections, as presented to Mr. Frost, were:

1. The program on which the government was elected was to improve the lot of the citizen in the lower income bracket. The great majority of those attending motion pictures are people living in that bracket, and motion pictures are the most popular form of family entertainment and the proposed tax would be an added burden on these people.

2. This type of tax has always been considered strictly a nuisance tax in the eyes of the public and its collection cumbersome and unpopular. A similar tax, previously in force, was abolished in 1937 for these reasons.

3. The Trade Union organizations quickly made known their opposition when this tax was first rumored. The vast body of small town workers and farmers have no existent organized means of making a similar protest. Nevertheless there are strong indications that they would also voice serious opposition to such a tax because it is they who can least afford an increase in the price of admission to their favorite theatres and will strongly resent being forced to pay it.

Members of the delegation which met with Mr. Frost are Mayor Fred O. Graham, who is interested in the Rio, Essex, Roxy, Kingsville and Haro, Harrow; Mayor Floyd Rumford, Kineto, Forest; E. S. Meehan, Academy, Lindsay; and Stuart Fleming, Lincoln, St. Catharines.

The Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario is continuing its interest in tax developments.

Film Weekly

Vol 10, No. 8 Feb. 21, 1945

HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

Address all communications—The Managing Editor,
Canadian Film Weekly, 25 Dundas Square, Toronto, Canada.

Published by Film Publications of Canada Ltd., 25 Dundas Square, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Phone ADelaide 4317. Price 5 cents each or \$2.00 per year.

Entered as Second Class Matter.

Printed by Eveready Printers Limited, 78 Wellington Street West, Toronto, Ontario.

Hague Service Was Impressive

(Continued from Page 1)

of the Canadian Picture Pioneers, who died in Toronto on February 8. The services were held on February 10 at the parlors of McDougall and Brown and interment took place at the grounds of St. John's Norway.

The active pallbearers were Alf. W. Perry, Sam Fine, Syd Taube, Clare Appel, Walter Kennedy and Ben Cronk.

Honorary pallbearers were Oscar R. Hanson, Harry Colling, Herbert Allen, Harry Law, Leo Devaney, Frank McCarthy of New York, Ben Norrish of Montreal, George Beeston, Tom J. Bragg, Jack Arthur, Colonel John A. Cooper, Harold Pfaff, Charles Mavety, Paul L. Nathanson and John J. Fitzgibbons.

Many present were non-industry people, such as members of Rameses Temple and the Independent Order of Foresters, of which organizations Mr. Hague had been a member. He was a 32nd degree Mason. There were also fellow-members of the Royal Order of Jesters.

He is survived by his widow, Thelma Hague; three daughters, Irma, Natalie and Gwendolyn; two sons, Arnold and Ray; and a brother, Louis, London, Ontario. Irma is at the head office of Empire-Universal, Ray is with Sovereign Films, Toronto, and Arnold is with Associated Screen News, Montreal. Both Natalie and Gwendolyn are studying music and dramatics in New York.

Born in Brantford, Ontario, Clair Hague entered show business before he was seventeen, he and Ben Cronk, a fellow-townsmen aged 15, having organized the Empire Hypnotic and Vaudeville Company. Hague was a hypnotist and Cronk an artist. In 1901 Hague and Cronk joined the medicine show of Dr. Leslie R. Lee. After that they separated, Clair travelling with different carnivals. One of his duties was to operate of projection machine.

In 1904 he joined the Fontaine-Manley Carnival Company, which toured the USA, and in 1906 with E. R. Benjamin, which was part of the Patterson shows, a 22-car outfit. Clair was accustomed to spending the winters in Brantford. In 1908, Benjamin, when Clair left at the end of the season, suggested that he take the movie equipment and open a store

Destiny

with Gloria Jean, Alan Curtis
Universal 65 Mins.

OLD-FASHIONED STORY SHOULD HAVE STRONG SENTIMENTAL APPEAL FOR MOST WOMEN.

An unashamedly sentimental film, "Destiny" is drama of the old school that will bring a measure of entertainment to those who are touched at the mere mention of a tear. The picture possesses melodramatic overtones that may succeed in luring the meller devotees.

The none-too-substantial story is the ancient one about the afflicted girl whose influence serves to redeem an undesirable character. The girl in "Destiny" is blind. Her sweetness and her abiding faith in people slowly but surely make a decent person of a chap who through an unfortunate combination of circumstances has been prevented from going straight after serving time in jail for robbery.

Gloria Jean is appealing as the blind girl. Alan Curtis brings vigor to the role of the man who is the victim of destiny. A homespun performance is contributed by Frank Craven as Miss Jean's father.

CAST: Gloria Jean, Alan Curtis, Frank Craven, Grace McDonald, Vivian Austin, Frank Fenton, Minna Gombell.

CREDITS: Associate Producer, Roy William Neill; Director, Reginald Le Borg; Screenplay, Roy Chanslor, Ernest Pascal; Cameramen, George Robinson, Paul Ivano; Musical Score, Frank Skinner, Alexandre Tansman; Art Directors, John B. Goodman, Abraham Grossman, Richard Riedel; Sound Director, Bernard B. Brown; Set Decorators, Russell A. Gausman, Victor A. Gangelin; Film Editor, Paul Landres.

DIRECTION, Okay. PHOTOGRAPHY, Okay.

show in Brantford. Having spent the winter of 1907 at the New Orleans Mardi Gras and other places, he was behind in news of Brantford goings-on and when he did get there he found that the Allens, Americans from Bradford, Pennsylvania, had anticipated him.

He joined the Allens as a member of the staff which operated their film exchange, left them in 1909 for the Kline Optical Company, which distributed Selig, Essanay Biograph and other product. Clair rejoined the Allens, who had moved to the West, when they decided to reopen in the East and became the manager of their Canadian Film Company.

When Carl Laemmle's Univer-

Bluebeard

with John Carradine, Jean Parker, Nils Asther, Ludwig Stossel

PRC 73 Mins.
SPLENDIDLY PLAYED MELO-DRAMA PACKS PLENTY OF EXCITEMENT AND SUSPENSE.

Here is easily one of the most ambitious offerings to bear the PRC label. It has been given splendid direction by Edgar Ulmer, with production credits going to Leon Fromkess and his associate producer, Martin Mooney.

The acting is excellent, with John Carradine enacting the title role of a Parisian artist-puppeteer of the year 1855. When a model, whom he loved and painted, is disclosed as a harlot, he goes on a rampage and garrots girls in whom he becomes interested. Patti McCarthy, his assistant, is one of his victims.

Carradine meets Jean Parker, a dressmaker, and becomes fond of her. Her sister, Leala Loring, is a police agent and works with Nils Asther, prefect of police. They set a trap for Carradine, but police plans go awry and Carradine garrots Teala with his cravat. Jean, who had sewn the cravat, accuses Carradine of the murder and he confesses.

CAST: John Carradine, Jean Parker, Nils Asther, Ludwig Stossel, George Pembroke, Teala Loring, Sonia Sorel, Iris Adrian, Henry Kolker, Emmett Lynn, Patti McCarty, Carrie Deven, Anne Sterling.

CREDITS: Producer, Leon Fromkess; Associate Producer, Martin Mooney; Director, Edgar Ulmer; Authors, Arnold Phillips and Warner H. Furst; Screenplay, Pierre Gendron; Cameraman, Jockey A. Feindel; Art Director, Paul Palmentola; Assistant, Angelo Scibetta; Editor, Carl Pierson; Musical Director, Leo Erdody; Marionettes by Barlow & Baker.

DIRECTION, Splendid. PHOTOGRAPHY, Very Good.

sal Film Manufacturing Company acquired the Canadian Film Company in 1912 Clair remained as eastern Canadian manager, a while later becoming general manager of what had become the Canadian Universal Film Company.

In 1937 the Universal franchise went to the Nathanson interests and was incorporated in Empire-Universal. Clair became Universal representative in Canada.

He was always active in organizations in the past, having been a charter member of the Elks of Canada and several other lodges. An honorary member of the Projectionists' Union, he had been presented with a specially-minded coin after 30 years with them.

The Falcon in Hollywood

with Tom Conway

RKO 67 Mins.
HOLLYWOOD LOCALE FOR MURDER MYSTERY ADDS TO INTEREST OF SERIES' LATEST.

The Hollywood setting should give the latest of the Falcon films an advantage over its predecessors, even though the production is hardly the best of the lot. The title carries a promise of melodrama tinged with glamor, and that promise has been well kept. The result is a film that has considerable interest apart from its story elements.

The story is an ordinary affair indebted considerably to the non-chalance of Tom Conway. It has Conway going to Hollywood for a vacation only to run smack into a studio murder mystery. The Falcon sets about solving the case in the casual manner typical of him. Any number of suspects are trotted out to confuse the audience before Conway puts his finger on a producer plotting to get away with the money invested in his picture.

The Gerald Geraghty screenplay was produced adequately by Maurice Geraghty and directed easily by Gordon Douglas.

CAST: Tom Conway, Bargar Hale, Veda Ann Borg, John Abbott, Sheldon Leonard, Konstantin Shayne, Emory Parnell, Frank Jenks, Jean Brooks, Rita Corday, Walter Soderling, Useff Ali, Robert Clarke.

CREDITS: Producer, Maurice Geraghty; Director, Gordon Douglas; Screenplay, Gerald Geraghty; Based on character created by Michael Arlen; Cameraman, Nicholas Musuraca; Special Effects, Vernon L. Walker; Art Directors, Albert D'Agostino, L. O. Croxton; Set Decorators, Darrell Silvera, Michael Chrenbach; Sound, Francis M. Sarver; Musical Director, C. Bakaleinikoff; Film Editor, Gene Milford; Dance Director, Theodore Rand.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Cashman Heads York Playgrounds Comm.

Charles P. Cashman of Photo-Engravers was appointed chairman of York Township Playground Committee at a meeting of the York Township Council, of which he is a member.

Charlie is extremely interested in juvenile delinquency and he was one of the founders of the playground scheme in the township. There is now an annual expenditure of \$10,000 for such purposes.

He's a member of the Recreation and Education Division of Welfare Council, United Welfare Chest.

AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE...

A Canterbury Tale



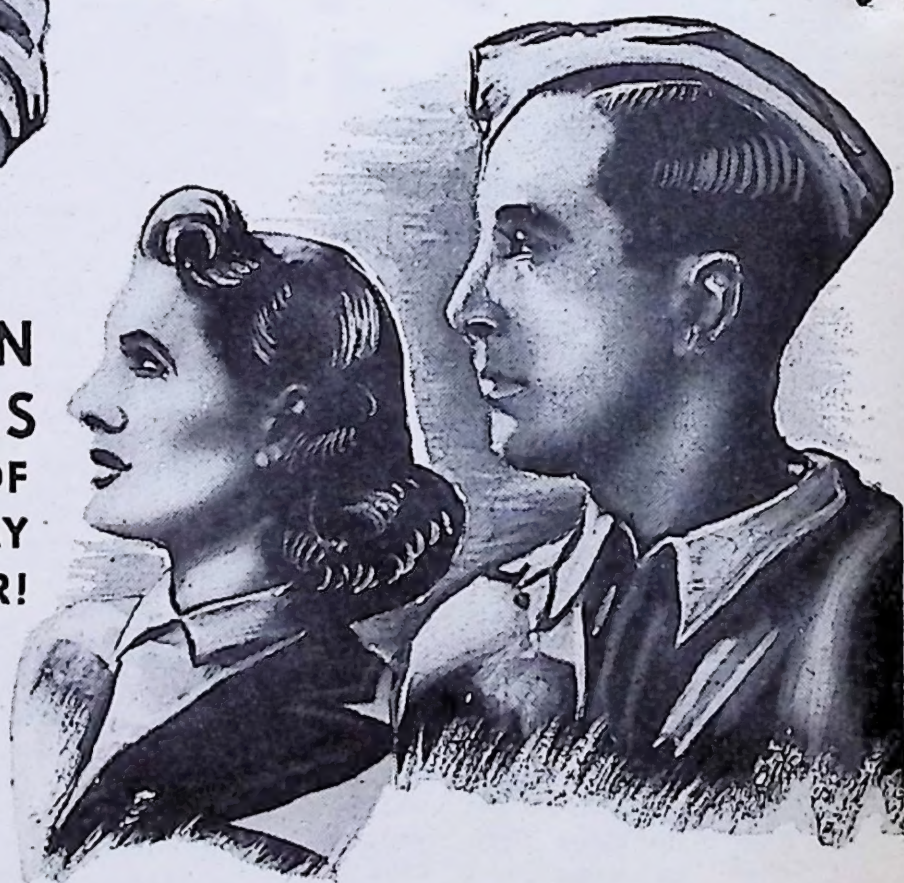
starring

Eric Portman

with

SHEILA SIMS
DENNIS PRICE
SGT. JOHN SWEET

FOUR
MODERN
PILGRIMS
IN A STORY OF
TODAY, YET AWAY
FROM THE WAR!



A NEW STORY ABOUT AN OLD CUSTOM
WITH A WONDERFUL SENSE OF PEOPLE AND WHAT
THEY ARE MADE OF MAINTAINING ITS TENSION
THROUGH A FINE INTERPLAY OF CHARACTERS!



North American
Premiere

UPTOWN THEATRE

TORONTO, ONT.

FEBRUARY 15th



GREAT

IN THE GREATNESS
OF THEIR HEARTS!

MAGNIFICENT

IN THE
MAGNIFICENCE
OF THEIR COURAGE!



DAVID NIVEN

RETURNS TO THE SCREEN IN

THE WAY AHEAD

with
RAYMOND HUNTLEY
BILLY HARTNELL
STANLEY HOLLOWAY



THE EXTRAORDINARY STORY
OF EIGHT ORDINARY GUYS!
... and what a story they tell!

Playing the
UPTOWN THEATRE
TORONTO, ONT.

COMMENCING
MARCH 8th



**RKO's
'Casanova Brown'
Top Romantic Comedy**

GARY COOPER has one of his most popular roles in the International-RKO comedy, "Casanova Brown" — that of the big, shy guy who is subject to a hundred kinds of trouble and wins out in the end. And gets the girl, too.

Cooper here plays a small town professor who loves one girl (Teresa Wright) and finds himself engaged to another (Anita Louise), daughter of money-mad Frank Morgan. Morgan, who married for money and didn't get it, adds much to the comedy of the piece.

It's a very entertaining film which features Patricia Collinge, Jill Esmond, Halliwell Hobbs and other excellent players.



Fox to Mark 30th Anniversary

(Continued from Page 1)

joint setup.

Twenty-five years ago Fox Movietone News, produced under the direction of Edmund Reek, was established. Ten years ago March of Time was organized and became affiliated with Twentieth Century-Fox.

Exhibitors, whether circuit or Independent, are planning to join the celebration by playing Fox product during the month. They are now booking anniversary programs for April, whether regular customers of the company or not.

It happens that 20th-Fox has a magnificent lineup of pictures available, some of which are:

Moss Hart's "Winged Victory." A spectacular Darryl F. Zanuck production of the sensational stage hit by eminent playwright Moss Hart, enacted by members of the U.S. Army Air Force, plus Hollywood personalities. A glorious musical, with a grand story, "Winged Victory" is to the American Air Force what "This Is The Army" was to the American Army. All the talent engaged would cost three million dollars, but in addition there are Jeanne Crain, Jo-Carroll Dennison, and Jane Ball.

Another great event in 20th-Fox history is the picturization of Betty Smith's immortal novel, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn," a tremendous emotional drama, with Dorothy McGuire, James Dunn, Peggy Ann Garner, Lloyd Nolan, James Gleason, B. S. Pully, and others.

Other releases from 20th-Fox during 1945 will include:

A. J. Cronin's "The Keys of the Kingdom." Produced on a gigantic scale from the all-time best-seller by A. J. Cronin, "The Keys of the Kingdom" is certain to be one of the major boxoffice attractions of 1945. Its powerful and wonderful story will make it instantaneously appealing to every audience, while the huge cast boasts such top names as Gregory Peck, Thomas Mitchell, Vincent Price, Rose Stradner, Roddy McDowall, Edmund Gwenn, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Peggy Ann Garner, Irving Pichel, James Gleason, Anne Revere, Sara Allgood, Edith Barrett, Ruth Ford, and many, many others.

"Hangover Square." Great mystery-drama with an English setting and a most capable cast, including George Sanders, Linda Darnell, Laird Cregar, and others.

"Sunday Dinner For A Soldier." A tremendously human and heart-warming story of every-day family life. Anne Baxter co-stars with exciting new male star John Hodiak, Charles Winninger, Bob-



Good Luck, Steve

Steve McManus, manager of the Elgin, Ottawa, and former president of the MPTAO group in the region, is leaving show business in favor of hotel management. He will manage the Mettawas Hotel, Kingsville, Ontario, and also oversee the S. S. Pelee, which sails from Leamington and Kingsville to Pelee Island, then to Sandusky, Ohio. The boat operates about eight months a year.

This McManus lad is not only a bright one but one of the nicest in this business. There isn't a more popular fellow with 20th Century Theatres and Ottawa folks who dropped into these offices always had a pleasant word for Steve.

Everyone around here wishes him plenty of luck and you can bet that Steve will pop up one of these days as an exhibitor.

by Driscoll, Anne Revere, Jane Darwell, Robert Bailey, and others.

"Irish Eyes Are Smiling." June Haver, Dick Haymes, Monty Woolley. A Technicolor musical of songs, charm and beauty.

"Thunderhead, Son of Flicka," in Technicolor. The picturization of Mary O'Hara's tremendously popular sequel to "My Friend Flicka," it contains every element which contributed to the huge success of the original. Roddy McDowall, Preston Foster, Rita Johnson, Diana Hale, James Bell, plus many others, are included in the cast.

"The Fighting Lady." A Technicolor drama of the Pacific thrillingly told by Lt. Robert Taylor. One of the greatest subjects of its kind to come out of the war.

"Something for the Boys," in Technicolor. A sparkling, scintillating, musical extravaganza, crammed with gags, gals and stars. Based on the London and New York stage hit, it has a musical score by Cole Porter, plus original music and lyrics by Jimmy McHugh and Harold Adamson. Carmen Miranda, Vivian Blaine, Michael O'Shea, Sheila Ryan, Phil Silvers, Stanley Prager, and the sensational young singer, Perry Como, are said to assure the widest popular appeal.

The Academy Award winner, Jennifer Jones, in "The Song of Bernadette," will be seen for the first time in that great motion picture. The film, for showing at popular prices, will be available in April.

Happy Harvey

Columbia's Harvey Harnick is—as they say in our sneered-at set—"higher" than a Georgia pine right now. Bay Rum? Muggles? Nope, just a lovely film called "A Song to Remember." Mr. Harnick's other and private title for it is "A Bag of Diamonds." Catch him right and he'll lay the odds that it will run forever. I saw it the other afternoon. I'm not so sure it won't. I am sure, though, that it will pile up the piastres wherever it plays.

The film, starring Merle Oberon, Cornel Wilde and Paul Muni, is about the life and music of Frederic Chopin, the great Polish pianist. If Mr. Chopin were alive today and appearing in person he would probably do one night's good business at Massey Hall. With the aid of some of the grandest Technicolor and the most superb sets I have seen since Hollywood went to war, Columbia will pass fistfuls of Chopin's golden notes to the general public weeks at a stretch.

Columbia is not MGM and Mr. Harnick, prejudiced though he is, would be the first to admit it. So when Columbia out-MGM's MGM—as it has with "A Song to Remember"—you must excuse Harvey and his company cohorts if they are walking around in a golden mist.

Don't get the idea that the film, featuring the music of a classic composer, is strictly for the knitted browsers. Chopin's music is light and tuneful for the most part and any patron will recognize much of it.

Even Barney Fox, EBA booker, admitted it was an "experience." He admitted that—imagine!—before he even heard what Columbia's terms were. It must be some picture.

Greed

Greed, someone probably observed before, is a strait jacket with pockets.

Chernoff Moves

Another fellow whose hearty hellos won't as handy around here as of yore is Jerry Chernoff, who used to handle Quebec for PRC until he came to head office in Toronto. Jerry has left PRC to take over Quebec and the Maritime districts for Alliance Films.

Maybe he'll be happier around his old stamping grounds but we won't be so happy to see him go.

T. J. Bragg Heads Royalties Board

Tom J. Bragg, Odeon Theatres of Canada, was elected chairman of the board of directors of the Musical Protective Society of Canada for 1945. Angus McCunn of Famous Players Canadian Corporation became vice-president under Glen Bannerman of the Canadian Association of Broadcasters.

Bannerman succeeded the late Jack W. Connell, who represented the Hotel Association of Canada.

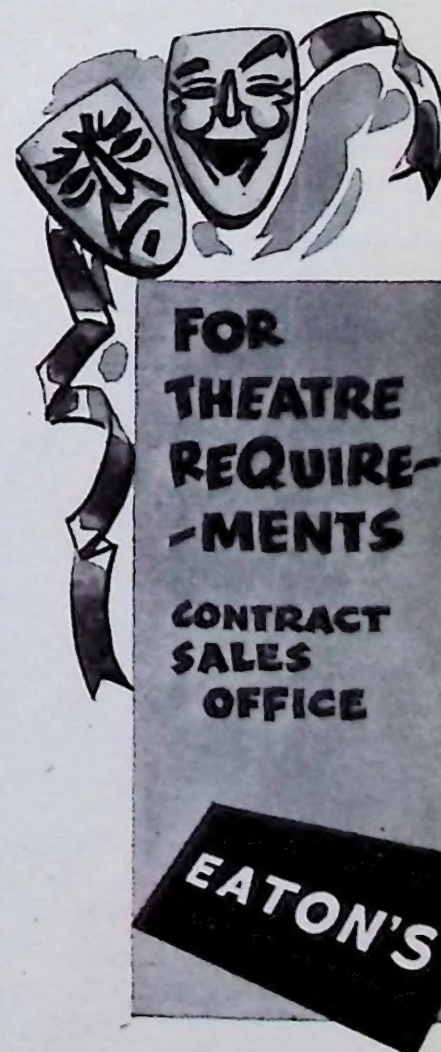
Secretary and treasurer of the Society is Colonel John A. Cooper, chairman of the Sixteen Millimetre Motion Picture Distributor's Association and assistant secretary is Syd B. Taube, executive secretary of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario.

Elections were held during the annual meeting, held at the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, last week.

IODE Endorses Two

Mrs. Grant Gordon, national film convenor of the IODE, sent the following wire to eight provincial convenors of the same organization:

"Urge you strongly to see David Niven in 'The Way Ahead' which is being released next week by Empire-Universal. Also 'The Gentler Sex' which deals with the life of the ATS which is being released March First. Please rush information to your municipal convenors."





TIME

magazine

DICK
POWELL • TREVOR •

Murder • My Sweet

(Tradeshown and reviewed as "Farewell My Lovely")

OTTO KRUGER • MIKE MAZURKI • MILES MANDER • DOUGLAS WALTON • DON

Produced by Adrian Scott • Directed by Edward Dmytryk

Screen Play by John Paxton

"As good a piece of melodramatic 20-minute-egg sentimentality as the famous 'Double Indemnity'. In some ways it is even more likeable, for though it is far less tidy, it is more vigorous and less slick, more resourcefully photographed and even more successfully cast....

"It handles Chandler's extremely cinemadaptable story so well that, if anything, it improves it in the retelling. It is the story of an indigent Los Angeles private detective (Dick Powell) who, for the sake of a few spare dollars, helps a gigantic imbecile

named Moose Malloy (Mike Mazurki) to hunt down the

says:

girl he loved when he went to jail. In the course of the quest the detective interviews a wonderful, boozy old floozy (Esther Howard) who could bring Hogarth up to date. Before long he finds himself suspected of murder and hired by several conflicting sides in a fight whose meaning and dimension he only gradually finds out. It involves invaluable jade, the slaughter of a gigolo, a psychoanalytic theosophist (Otto Kruger), a charlatan

(Ralf Harolde), an aging multimillionaire (Miles Mander) his young wife (Claire Trevor), and her angry stepdaughter (Anne Shirley). The wife treats the shabby detective with brazen coyness, the theosophist slams him across the chops with a pistol, the charlatan pumps him full of dope, the stepdaughter feeds him alternate Scotch and scorn, and the elderly, heartless-seeming nabob is in savagely at the climactic kill. The hyperpituitary ex-convict, incidentally, finds his lost lovely at last.

"'Murder, My Sweet' is done to a fare-thee-well by everybody from the costumer to the excellent cast. Sets that should look threadbare have seldom looked so rat-ridden. The neon sign outside a crummy dive is almost too properly defective. There is an enthusiastic appetite for everything possibly sinister about a big city and its people. The makers of the film go farther with their realism: they try to make sensations and states of mind visual. Best: the drug sequence, presenting through double exposure an indecipherable web of confusion and dreamlike memory."

ANNE
SHIRLEY

EST

DOUGLAS

R K O
RADIO
PICTURES



Frank Davis to WB, Montreal

(Continued from Page 1)

Davis got into the industry in Winnipeg and via the Welner circuit, went to United Artists in 1939 and remained with that company for three years. He then joined Warner Brothers, the branch being in charge of the late Lou Geller, who was succeeded by its current head, Graydon Mathews. He left there to enlist in the RCAF.

After his discharge from the service Davis was sent to Toronto and worked in the territory until his appointment to Montreal. Kiely, made branch manager recently by Ralph Clark, Canadian general manager, succeeded Irvin "Babe" Coval. Coval joined Wolfe Cohen in the Foreign department of the company and was given Trinidad territory.

The shift of Davis is one of the several moves that were caused by Wolfe Cohen's promotion from Canadian general manager to the administrator of vast and valuable film territory.

Davis enjoys an unusual degree of popularity among Toronto and Ontario exhibitors and in the trade generally. Quebec exhibitors will find him a straight-forward and very friendly fellow.

Sam Marks Dead, Was Pioneer

Sam Marks, member of the Canadian Picture Pioneers and well known in the industry during the days of the silent film, died suddenly in Toronto on February 10 at the age of 54. A heart attack was responsible for his death.

He was born in London, England and came to Toronto in 1901. The late Mr. Marks was mainly identified with the industry as a pianist and conductor, although he built the Palace Theatre, London, Ontario.

First pianist at Loew's downtown house, Toronto, during its vaudeville days, he conducted the orchestras which accompanied such silent roadshow epics as "The Four Horsemen" and "Ben Hur." For some years he operated a number of schools which taught piano playing through the Marks-Winn method.

Mr. Marks was interred in the cemetery of the Holy Blossom synagogue on February 12. The pallbearers were Syd Taube, Archie Laurie, Walter Kennedy, Jack Arthur, Frank O'Byrne and Jack Harper.

Clair Hague

CLAIR Hague, who passed away in Toronto on February 8, knew those who came into the Canadian motion picture industry the earliest and the latest. He was one of the earliest and there has never been a time since that his name hasn't



The Late Clair Hague

shone brightly. At first it was his business prominence and latterly his work as a benefactor of the people in the industry.

He was among the founders of the Canadian Picture Pioneers and has been its president every year but one. Although he had little to worry about financially, none knew better than he the economic and physical uncertainties of life. His chief interest in the past few years was to reduce the hurtful results of those uncertainties through the good offices of the Pioneers. He recognized that there would be less fear in the lives of those around him if they knew that there was a source of help at hand.

Clair had not been well for a long time and there were times when he would have been better off at home. One of his great faults—if you can call it that—was that he loved his friends too much and missed them too soon. You would hear about Clair feeling poorly again and the next thing you know he would be dropping into your office on his way to his own, or phoning. And it was always to be helpful in one way or another.

There are too few men who measure the things that turn up immediately in terms of benefit to others. He knew the problems of filling space with worthwhile things and he knew news and human interest material when he saw or heard of it. If he became your friend, your problems became his. Because of that he was of great help to the editor of this publication. This despite the fact that Ray Lewis, owner of the opposition paper, was one of his dearest friends. But that's what Clair was like and Ray knew he was like that—and liked him for it.

It was last May that we printed the stories of Clair Hague and Ben Cronk, his life-long chum and closest friend. Although Clair had always been ready to provide details of the lives of men who had marched along the same road for many years, when Flashbacks turned the camera eye on him he wouldn't stay in focus. Not that he wouldn't talk. He would and did—about Ben Cronk. Recognizing that Flashbacks were complimentary, he was naturally inclined to cause Ben to get the cheers.

Fortunately Ben had the same

attitude about Clair. The endeavors of each to make the other seem more interesting to the would-be biographer revealed that it was almost impossible to write a story of one in which the other was not prominent. The story was written in that way and attracted more attention than any Flashbacks story before or since. There is not a spare issue in these offices. Old-timers in the industry sent their copies to old friends either out of the industry or not on our circulation list, then sent for an extra copy.

As Ben says, it was Clair's part in the story that attracted such evidence of friendly interest.

Illness had pinched his countenance and pain had given him an impatient look but he was as quick to smile as any man you ever saw. Nor did his own unhappy state cause him to lose interest in the welfare of others. In fact, it accentuated that interest—proof that Clair Hague lacked the bitterness so many in a similar situation develop. He substituted compassion for that bitterness.

There were many who did not send flowers but sent money that would have bought them to the Pioneers Benevolent Fund. So that Clair Hague, in death as in life, helped those who would sometimes need help. That was in keeping with his character.



This photo was one of Clair Hague's prize possessions. He is shown with the late Carl Laemmle, his great and good friend. Laemmle, founder of Universal and one of the industry's historic figures, had appointed Hague Universal chief for Eastern Canada two years before the photo was made. Later Clair became Canadian general manager.

Taken at the Grand Canyon, Arizona, on March 12, 1915, the photo shows (left to right) Clair Hague, George Magie; Carl Laemmle; Pat Powers, vice-president; and Chester A. Clegg, manager for Western Canada. The group was on its way to the opening of Universal City, a seven-car trek from New York to Hollywood.



Crosby, Hutton and Tufts Put On a Great Show in 'Here Come the Waves'

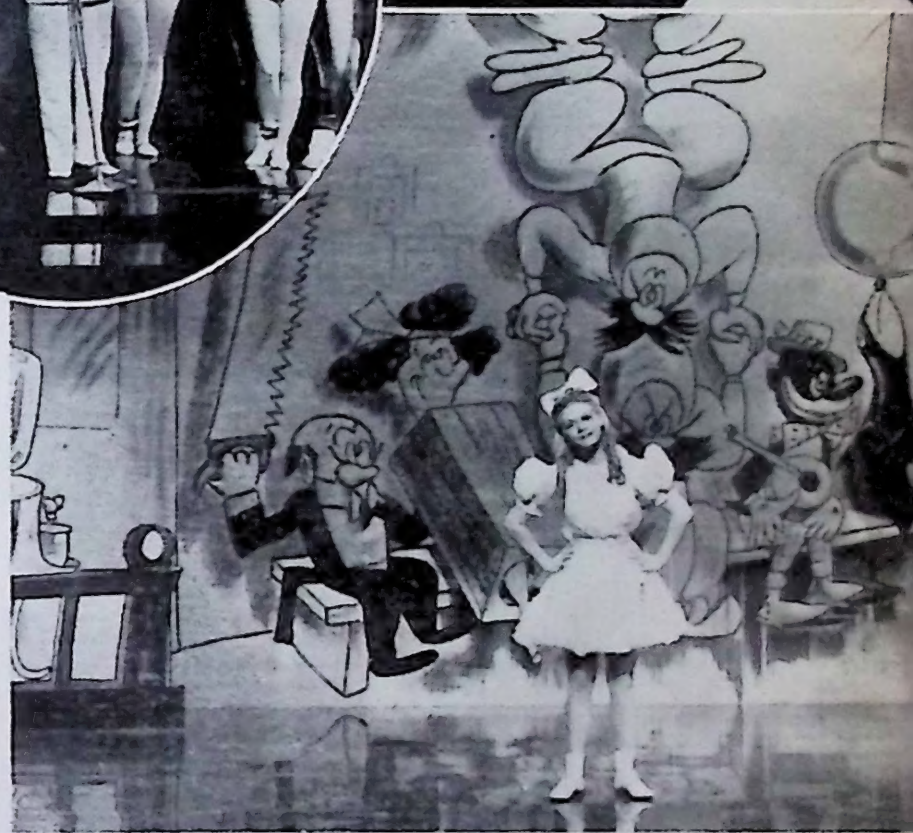
A REAL boxoffice feature is Paramount's "Here Come the Waves," Bing Crosby's first since "Going My Way."

It's loaded with laughter, romance, swell music—and Crosby is a Sinatra character, idol of the bobby-soxers.

Betty Hutton was never better and the film gives her plenty of footage on which to look and act her best.

Sonny Tufts is Crosby's rival for the hand of Betty and does very well.

Harold Arlen did the music and John Mercer the lyrics of the swell song nurabers.



"A SUCCESS AT THE BOX-OFFICE!"
—The Independent

"A TASTY DISH!"
—Film Daily

"MAGNIFICENT ENTERTAINMENT!"
—Boxoffice



**ANNE BAXTER
JOHN HODIAK**

Together on your marquee in

"SUNDAY DINNER FOR A SOLDIER"

with **Charles Winninger · Anne Revere · Connie Marshall**
Chill Wills · Robert Bailey · Bobby Driscoll · Jane Darwell
Directed by **LLOYD BACON** · Produced by **WALTER MOROSCO**

Screen Play by Wanda Tuchock and Melvin Levy

20th
CENTURY-FOX